



Memorandum 23/8/2018

ARIAS Implementation Coordinating Group

For information and guidance

CONTEXT:

The ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan was approved at the May 2017 Ministerial and an Implementation Coordination Group (CG) co-led by CAFF and PAME was formed to facilitate implementation of ARIAS. The purpose of the ICG is to guide implementation of ARIAS and provide recommendations regarding potential implementation actions and progress on areas of interest to the CAFF and/or PAME Working Groups. Any joint projects will need to be approved by both the CAFF and PAME (for marine) and by CAFF (for terrestrial).

ORGANISATION:

The CG co-lead by Canada and the US with the following members:

Country	Name	Role	Email
Canada	Maya Gold	Co-Chair	maya.gold@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
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STATUS:

Recognizing the importance of cooperation and integration of activities between Arctic Council working groups, CAFF and PAME are working to ensure effective use of resources, leverage capabilities, and avoid duplication of efforts. Initiated in May the ICG has held 2 teleconferences and the following table outlines tasks and status:

Tasks	Timeline
Establish a Joint CAFF/PAME ICG to oversee coordination of ARIAS implementation, taking into account all ecosystems (i.e. terrestrial, fresh, coastal and marine) – co-Led by Canada and the US.	Decision at CAFF and PAME meetings in Feb 2018
Terms of reference for the ICG developed and submitted for CAFF/PAME review and approval	August (date tbc)
Consider project proposals currently submitted to CAFF (e.g. ARIAS Data Mobilization and ARIAS Communication and Outreach) and PAME (e.g. updated proposal for the Coastal Monitoring of Arctic Marine Invasive Alien Species Report)	Ongoing
A form circulated to Arctic States and PPs to complete and help determine "priorities among the priority actions" listed in the ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan.	Ongoing
AC WGs (SDWG, AMAP, ACAP, EPPR) have also been sent a request to fill out a form to help determine what is of interest for collaboration.	July 31
Session at the Arctic Biodiversity Congress: "Arctic Invasive Alien Species Action Plan: National implementation and empowering decision making by mobilizing, sharing, and analysing Arctic Invasive Alien Species (IAS) data"	Oct 10
ARIAS implementation briefing during the Arctic Biodiversity Congress	Oct 11
ARIAS steering committee co-chairs to report to CAFF and PAME on progress, comments and next steps, including potential inclusion of invasive alien species projects in the CAFF and PAME 2019-2021 work plans.	Sep 2018
CAFF and PAME chairs report to SAOs on status and progress of the ARIAS implementation.	Oct 2018
Project plans circulated for review on IAS projects for CAFF/PAME 2019-2021 workplans.	Nov-Jan 2018
2019	
Convening of ARIAS Implementation Workshop	TBC
ARIAS co-Leads report to CAFF and PAME on progress and seek approval of project plans of 1-2 invasive species projects in the CAFF and PAME work plans, respectively, for the period 2019-2021.	Feb 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAFF and PAME chairs to report to SAOs on status and approval of the IAS projects as a part of their work plans for the period 2019-2021. 	March 2019



Actions required from CAFF and PAME:

- Provide direction on status of ARIAS implementation and next Steps, including the:
 - Convening of the first ARIAS implementation workshop
 - Prioritization process
 - Project proposals for inclusion in 2019-2022 CAFF/PAME workplans
- Approval of the ICG terms of Reference